

REMARKS

The present claims generally relate to a new and unique system for processing calls arriving at a vehicle audio system from multiple telephones operating within an automobile or other vehicle. Because none of the references cited by the Office Action disclose at least this aspect, we hereby request continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114.

As we pointed out in our conversations with the Examiner, our invention provides the user with control over calls received from different telephones (e.g. cellular phones, a satellite or other phone built into the vehicle, cellular phones carried by other passengers, and/or the like). Unlike other telephony systems that provide conventional “call waiting” features, our systems and techniques allow for a call to be placed on “hold” while another call from a completely distinct telephone is processed on the vehicle audio system. If a driver is talking on a cellular phone, for example, an incoming call received via a satellite phone can be received and processed without disconnecting the original cellular call. The claims could equivalently apply to calls received from two separate wireless phones (e.g. a work phone and a personal phone, a driver phone and a passenger phone, two passenger phones, etc.) or from any other two separate telephones operating within the vehicle.

Although several of the prior art audio systems were capable of communicating with multiple telephones, none contained the ability to maintain simultaneous connection with multiple phones or the ability to place calls from one telephone on hold while providing a call from another phone to the user. Accordingly, the prior art cited in the Final Office Action fails to disclose the inventions contained in the present claims.

If for some reason Applicant has not requested a sufficient extension and/or has not paid a sufficient fee for this Response and/or for the extension necessary to prevent abandonment on this application, please consider this as a request for an extension for the required time period and/or authorization to charge to our Deposit Account No. 50-2091 for any fee that may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

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